(b) if so, the detailed components of the revival plan; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A team of experts is examining the details of the functioning of HDPEL and preparing a realistic revival plan.

New pension scheme for port workers

810. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to go for new pension schemes for major port workers and seafarers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to amend the Seamen Provident Fund Act?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Government introduced a new pension scheme based on defined contribution for new entrants recruited on or after 1.1.2004 for all employees of the Government and Public Sector Undertakings, autonomous bodies under the administrative control of different Central Ministries/Departments *vide* Gazette notification of 10th October, 2003. No further new scheme for grant of pension for port workers, seafarers etc. is under consideration.

(c) There is no provision for pension scheme in the Seamen Provident Fund Act, 1966 and there is no proposal to amend the SPF Act, 1966 in order to provide for pension scheme.